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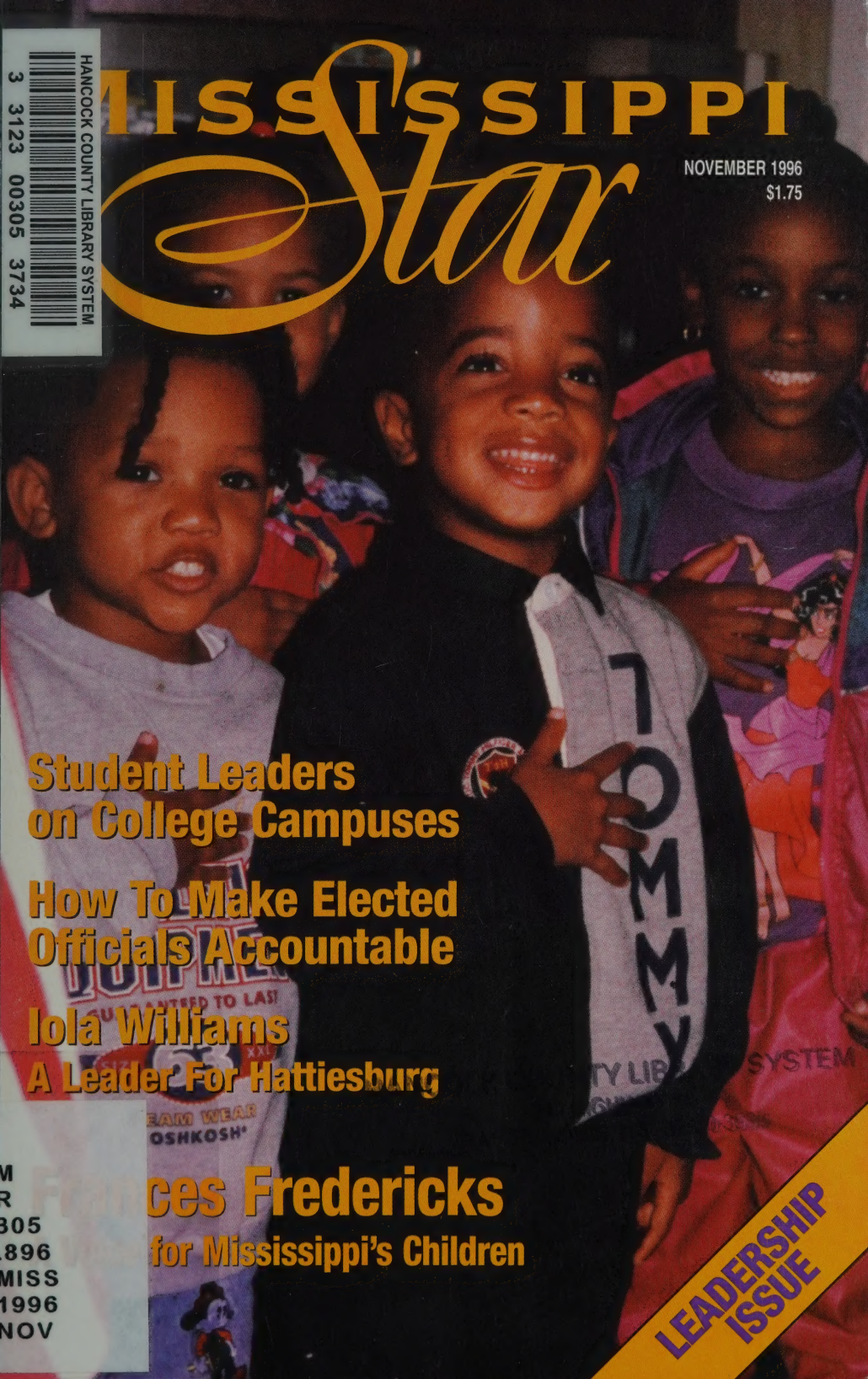

Student Leaders on College Campuses

How To Make Elected Officials Accountable

Iola Williams
A Leader For Hattiesburg

ces Fredericks
for Mississippi's Children

LEADERSHIP ISSUE

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CATCH A RISING STAR!

On September 1, 1996, South Mississippi and the entire Gulf Coast was hit with a glow so bright it could have only come from one source, the premiere issue of *Mississippi Star*. This publication caught marketing and media executives by surprise while taking African-Americans on an exclusive Mississippi tour which included family, health, education, business, and culture.

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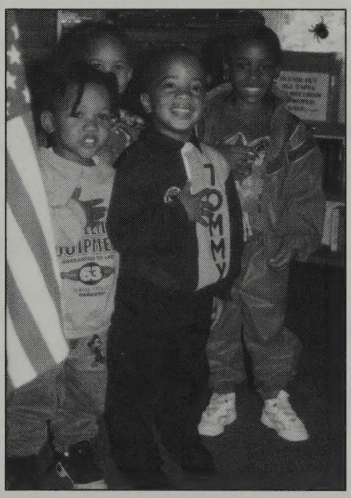

Cover Photo: Students at Gulfport's S.P.A.C.E. Learning Center recite the Pledge of Allegiance. From left, Rodgick Boose, DeJanei Casey, S. Kelly Edwards and Gaberille McKinney

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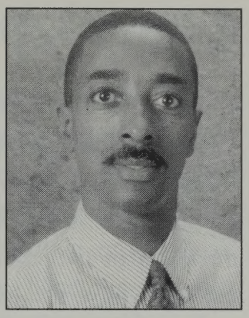
Publisher's Page



Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

The older man featured in The College Fund's current television commercial spot reminds me of my fraternal grandfather. There's no strong physical resemblance, however the story I read in this actor's eyes is quite familiar.

If you haven't seen this commercial yet, look for it. There's a college graduation ceremony, and as a young man is called to receive his diploma, all eyes focus on the proud, tired grandfather rising to his feet in the balcony. His penetrating, cold eyes are those of a life-long warrior who is realizing the purpose of his many battles. What a powerful image.

My grandfather's eyes told the same story the night of his fifthieth wedding anniversary as he and my grandmother stood in front of their nine children, thirty-something grandchildren and great grandchildren, and many friends as the photographer did his work sometime back in the late 1960's.

I have seen that powerful image of my grandfather many times since that night and since his death in February of 1970. In fact, I can flash it in my mind at will. The meaning in the image is consistent, however, from time to time it relates differently. As the upcoming presidential election approaches, I see a scolding image and I can hear my grandfather say, "Boy, you better go vote because I worked too hard for you to be messing around." Then I answer him, "Pawpaw, you know I'm going to vote; I always vote."

Then he grumpily says back to me, "Well tell somebody else to vote then, because I worked too hard for y'all to be messing around."

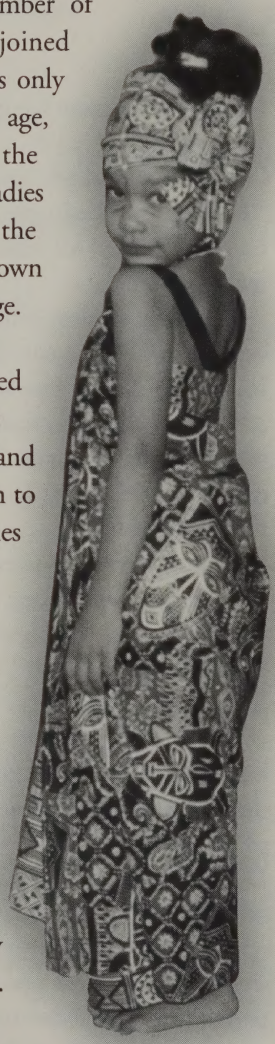
Throughout most of his life Paw-paw was not allowed to vote because of the color of his skin. However, he was a resourceful man who made the most of his limited opportunities. I would guess that he was like many of the grandfathers of his generation.

If you are a registered voter, be sure to take advantage of this right you have as a citizen of the United States. Talk about it. Remind your friends how important it is to exercise this right. If your neighbors or friends need rides to the polls, take them. Accept no excuses for laziness or passiveness this election year. Dedicate your vote to someone you know who may have been denied this opportunity sometime in their life. Consider your vote and your participation as serious matters, because I would be willing to bet that your grandfather worked too hard for you to be messing around. MS

Correction

In our October issue cover story, Shani Dancers Off To College, I failed to mention that the Shani Dancers was made up of five dancers. Eight-year-old Britney Williams, the youngest member of the group, joined when she was only four years of age, back when the four young ladies featured in the story were known as Street Image.

The girls were impressed with Britney's perseverance and determination to get the routines right. Britney then began performing with them as they transitioned from Street Image to Shani Dancers approximately four years ago.



Britney Williams

Mississippi Star

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LETTERS

I thought Stacy James Mackey's piece, *Tomorrow Is Not Promised,* in her column, *Something To Pray About,* was very touching and powerful. I think she is a brave and strong woman to be able to speak about this only two months after she lost what I know was her heart and soul (I know my mom is mine). I agree that people tend to procrastinate. In the last six months, I decided that life is too short to procrastinate, so I now try to live my life alert and to the fullest, because Stacy was right when she said, "Tomorrow is not promised." Thank you Stacy again for reinforcing my beliefs.

Katherine Robertson Evans
Long Beach, MS

Note: Stacy James Mackey's mother died during the development of the premiere issue of Mississippi Star.

Applause! Applause! Applause! Finally, something in print with a positive reflection of the Black community. I read and re-read the Premiere and subsequent issue and I must say I am truly impressed. What a terrific format, and I see great potential for its growth. I hope you will find much support for such a valiant effort.

One way to rally that support, in my opinion, is to think about including a segment announcing achievements of our local high school and college youth. Involving a high school or college youth to function as a reporter for this venture would help heighten interest in this endeavor. Also, we are always interested in wedding/engagement announcements. Seeing our children grow into adults and take this important step is real news to us. Highlighting local church news is another way for us all to share in what is happening within our community.

As I see it, the possibilities are endless. I believe you have truly hit upon a needed commodity. Again, thank you for adding something positive to my day. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Linda M. Carson
Gulfport

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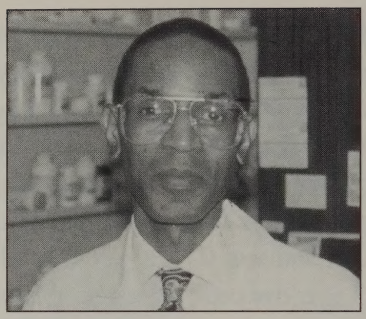


Clarence DuBose is a community pharmacist in Moss Point. The founder of Medi-Mart Pharmacy more than twenty years ago, DuBose points out that service is what sets him apart from the large pharmacy chains.

"We do more than lick, stick, count and pour," explained the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy graduate. "The work that we do is more patient-oriented.

"When someone walks through our doors, more than likely, we will know their name, their family, where they live, as well as their medical history. We have more of an affinity toward the individual," DuBose added. When he is not busy at the pharmacy, DuBose is busy with his second business, Candi Video. As a video producer, he has developed programming for Praise The Lord Gospel Ministries, as well as television commercial spots for local businesses.

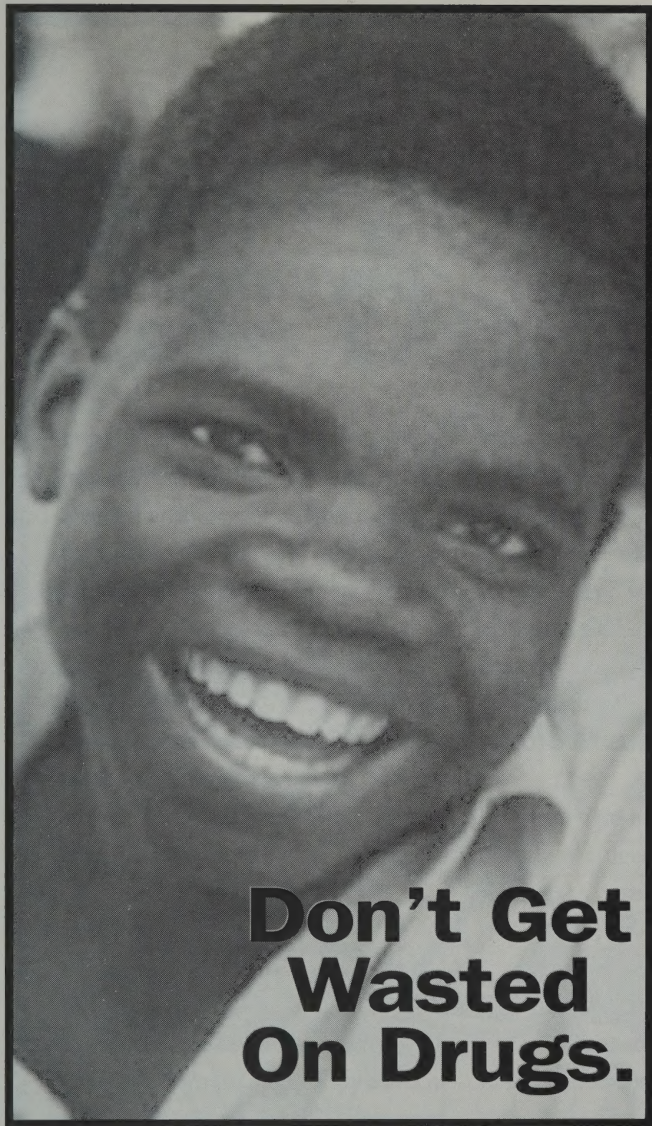
He is the father of three children: Sean, 23, Candis, 15, and Clarence, Jr., 13. His hobbies include scuba diving and photography. The Moss Point native is a 15-year member of the Mississippi Association of Black Professionals. MS

Peggy Dease is director of the Associate Degree Nursing Program at Pearl River Comunity College in Poplarville. A resident of Picayune, Peggy heads a 20-member faculty which has proven to be quite successful at its mission of developing nurses.

"We more than exceed the state's percentage requirement of the registered nurses licensure exam which is a minimum of 75% passage on the first try," Peggy proudly exclaimed. She pointed out that the maturity of the student is also an important contributing factor to this success. "The average age of our students is 32. Most of our students are either married or divorced."

Peggy explained the reward her work provides her: "I like the feeling of people coming into our department not knowing what to do and then leave a couple of years later with a career."

Peggy is the wife of Clyde Dease. They have three daughters: Monica, 14; Erin, 17; and Tiffany, 20, an accounting major at the University of Southern Mississippi. MS



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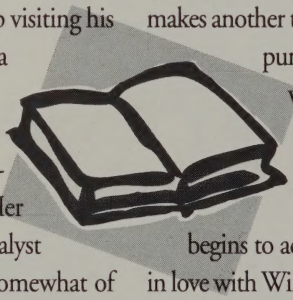
Book Review

Terry McMillan Has Got Her *Groove* Back

by Marilyn Vertison

Author Terry McMillan is back with a novel about a relationship between a woman approaching middle age and a young man half her age. *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* is an incredible story of a dedicated forty-two year-old divorced mother of an eleven-year-old son who soon will not require very much of his mom's attention.

While her son is on a trip visiting his father, Stella goes through a period of self-examination and begins to realize that her life is meaningless without her son's presence. Her success as an investment analyst which has developed into somewhat of her most consistent companion does not satisfy the void she feels. She begins to realize a need to be loved and to give love in return.



So Stella plans a spur of the moment getaway vacation to Jamaica to relax and play. However, little did she know that her entire life would change on this trip. Stella meets and falls in love with a soft-spoken, tall and lean Jamaican, Winston Shakespeare. Her attraction to Winston confuses her. She tries to deny her feelings for him. She constantly tries to explain why she is emotionally involved with a man half her age.

Stella constantly fights the desire she has to be with Winston, both emotionally and physically. After an unsuccessful attempt to forget about him, Stella makes another trip to Jamaica. Then, she purchases a ticket for him to visit her in California. During his West Coast visit, she begins to release her guards and begins to admit to herself that she is in love with Winston. As the story comes to an end, Stella has got her groove back and a wedding plan to boot.

Terry McMillan has done it again with *How Stella Got Her Groove Back,* a rich story that has the wit, charm and pizzazz of her three critically acclaimed works that preceded it—*Mama, Disappearing Acts, and Waiting To Exhale.* MS

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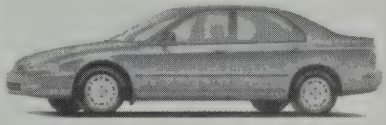

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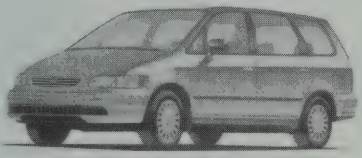

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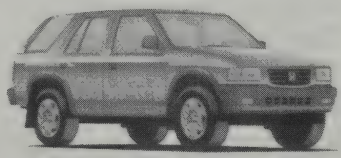

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Iola Williams Can't Stop Being A Leader

Iola M. Williams is the director of Recreation and Community Relations for the City of Hattiesburg.The mother of six and a veteran public servant with eighteen years experience came to Hattiesburg from San Jose, California, for "rest and respit." However, she can't seem to elude the responsibilities of public service.

"I retired to get my life back," said the energetic Williams. "However, I made one pledge when I left public service, and that is, 'If anybody needed any information or insight on being a leader, the knowledge that I had, I would give back.'"

"The administration and city of Hattiesburg are very fortunate to have an individual with Mrs. Williams extensive background and experience in municipal government," said Hattiesburg mayor J. Ed Morgan. "She has that unique ability to apply that knowledge and experience in many practical and meaningful ways throughout our community."

She has given back tremendously, and the city of Hattiesburg appears to be the beneficiary of her contributions. Since her appointment, she has developed the Mayor's Youth Conference and

Iola Williams inside the African American Military History Museum in Hattiesburg.

the Mayor's Youth Advisory Board. The Mayor's Youth Advisory Board is made up of thirty-three teenagers in grades eight through twelve from the different schools in Hattiesburg. They provide input to the city on issues concerning youth.

"They tell us what they want in the conference," explained Williams. "They also tell us what our strengths and weaknesses are."

The Mayor's Youth Conference attracts more than 500 students in grades eight through twelve from Hattiesburg and surrounding areas. The next conference will be held on November 16 at the Payne Center on the University of Southern Mississippi campus. This year's theme is, Putting the Pieces Together: Body, Mind & Spirit.

Developing youth is without question a top priority for Williams. Observing the director interact with her staff, I can not help but wonder if the foundation for her management style is a maternal instinct to nurture. Everyone she comes in contact with appears to have tremendous respect for her and she genuine concern for them.

Williams is also credited with helping create a city that is more inclusive. For the first time in the history of the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, an African American, Dolfus Weary, was speaker. Her concern for senior citizens is apparent through Senior Fare, a day in which Clover Leaf Mall focuses on and attempts to address the needs of older citizens.

Iola Williams and Hattiesburg mayor J. Ed Morgan.

Williams does not appear to be slowing down or finding the rest and respit she returned to Hattiesburg to find. The next year will be a busy one. Plans for the renovation of the Saengar Theatre are complete, and construction is tentatively scheduled to begin next year. The African American Military History Museum continues to grow and develop. Plans for ten new tennis courts and growing participation in existing youth programs has Williams very busy. MS

Frances Fredericks
A Voice for Mississippi's Children

by Marilyn Vertison

Frances Fredericks was recently elected to her second term as District 119 State Representative. As my interview with her began, I witnessed a peaceful, calming demeanor come over her as she spoke with grace and confidence about the issues that are so important to her. My immediate impression is that her constituents are very fortunate to be represented by this articulate and compassionate lady.

Frances Fredricks

Fredericks has genuine concern for the community she serves as well as the state in which she has lived most of her life. She has been committed to making both places better ever since she first considered to be a candidate for the seat that had previously been held by her late husband.

'I would tell them that before you speak, really read. Read and reread, because understanding is the key to everything.'

The one thing that Fredericks would like to achieve as state representative is to make the state a safe place for children. "All children should have the opportunity to be a child," she explained. Her concern for children and making sure they are properly educated are the primary reasons she supports Bill Clinton in his re-election campaign.

"Clinton understands domestic issues and the plights of the common people," Fredericks said. "I am a

continued on page 16

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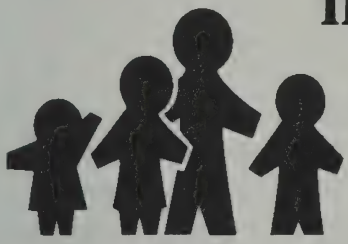

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Clinton fan and I think the whole world knows that."

Fredericks' dedication to education and children's safety is evident by many of the programs she diligently works to support on the Gulf Coast. She and her son, Don, started a Teen Court program that involves local schools and judges. Additionally, every year she adopts a class at Twenty-Eighth Street Elementary School in Gulfport.

In the upcoming year, Fredericks will continue her battle for a better future for Mississippi's children. Adequate child care and health care are two of the issues she is preparing for. She is eager to work on welfare reform, however, she explains that this will be a long-term project which will take considerable time to implement.

Fredericks is currently serving as vice chair of the Local and Private Committee. She also serves on Public Health, Judiciary B, Penitentiary, and Ways and Means committees.

When asked what advice she would give to aspiring public servants, she replied, "I would tell them that before you speak, really read. Read and reread, because understanding is the key to everything." She said that she would also suggest that they build coalitions for change instead of acting individually. MS

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Forming And Maintaining A Network

"The objective of a network is not the number you attract, but how contagious you become because of the good work you do," Georgia Landrum told attendees at the **Women of Color Conference** on October 12. The DuPont Human Resources Specialist inspired and enlightened attendees of the challenges of forming and maintaining an effective network.

The fifteen African-American women who attended the conference held at Gulfside Assembly Center in Waveland, identified problems and began the process of overcoming obstacles.

One of the biggest obstacles identified is a phenomenom which Landrum calls *the bang and the fizzle.* This relates to the initial excitement around a new idea which subsequently fades when the idea is not given life. "It's not about shaming and blaming," Landrum explained when participants discussed a previous attempt to form a network. "You have to think of new and creative ways to get the work done."

When Landrum asked participants what they expected to gain from their network, one said that she wanted to "learn how to get along with each other." Another said she was hoping that the network could be a "support system."

"We have to have a level of trust," Landrum added. "Before we get any of the things you want, we have to be connected. In order to unify, we have to grow."

Landrum said that the network succeeds when members feel they have real support. She defined support as 1) being able to be open and honest; 2) learning from each other; and 3) sharing experience.

When a group reaches this level of support, Landrum said, "This is called Sisterhood. It is called leadership. It is called followership. And it is called fellowship." MS

Women of Color is primarily a group of DuPont employees and other women with related interests.

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How do we get
to be responsive to the n

Thomas Farve
City Councilman
Bay St. Louis

"One of the best ways of getting government to be more responsive to the needs of the community is for the citizens to become involved in programs like Neighborhood Watch and similar programs. City officials attend these programs and citizens have the opportunity to interact with their elected officials."

Robin Midcalf
Supervisor District Four
Harrison County

"First of all, it is important that we elect peope who are accountable. I often ask my constituents the questions: 'Who is my boss?' and 'Who do I work for?' They think about the question and most of them fail to make the connection that they, as taxpayers, are the people for whom I work. All elected public officials sh
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Percy Watson
State Representative
Hattiesburg

"The first step is to elect individuals to office who have a track record of being involved in the community, people who are knowledgeable, people who represent the interest of the community instead of their own interest. Citizens should develop and maintain contact with officials before they vote for them.

"If you live among the people, you'll get a good feel for what is important. Elected officials are oftentimes *ivory tower* kind of people.

"Over the course of four years, my constituents can see what I have done in the community. For many of them, I have impacted their lives in a meaningful way.

"It's a two-way street. I have to make myself available as an elected official, and they have to let me know how they feel on an issue before action is taken. Communicate with me before a vote is taken."

continued on page 20

Clarence Harris
Community Activist
Waveland

"There are several ways to make elected officials accountable to their constituents. Politicians respond when you make contributions to their campaigns. Citizens should become more aware of the responsibilities of the particular offices. Once we become aware, we have a better idea of who we need to talk to about what.

"We need to attend meetings. The various groups and organizations in the community should have representatives attend meetings which affect their community. When they see you are interested, that is voting power to a politician. The more you are involved in your community, the more they (elected officials) become involved with your community."

Gene Taylor
U.S. Congressman
Fifth District, Mississippi

"Most importantly, folks should exercise their right to vote on election day. Secondly, they should contact their representatives with their concerns. The concerns of the people of South Mississippi are very important to me - that is why I have a toll-free number set up in my district offices: 1-800-273-4363."

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UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS

Tony Brown, TV journalist, author, and lecturer will be the featured speaker for the St. Mark United Methodist Church of Gulfport 104th Anniversary Banquet. The banquet will be held in the Crown Room of the Broadwater Beach Resort Hotel in Biloxi on November 15, at 7:00 p.m.

The author of *Black Lies, White Lies: The Truth According To Tony Brown* will include discussion of issues relating to improving our communities in the areas of economics, education and reducing drugs and violence.

Banquet tickets are available at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Taylor-Harris Pharmacy in Gulfport and Brother John's Shop in Biloxi. Tickets are also available at Ticketmaster at 1-800-488-5252. Tickets are $35 per person. For additional information, please call 868-1036.

EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS

The Gulfport Chapter of the NAACP will host the organization's state convention at the Isle of Capri Crowne Plaza Resort in Biloxi, November 7 - 10. Delegates from local chapters from across the state will participate in workshops, banquets and recreational events which include an excursion to Ship Island. Kweise Mfume, President and CEO of the NAACP will be guest speaker for the Freedom Fund Awards Banquet on Saturday evening.

EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS

Star Nite '96 will showcase talented youth ages 13 - 19 at the Biloxi Saenger Theatre on November 23. Contestants in two age categories will compete in the areas of dance, song, musical and nonmusical categories. Cash prizes of $150 will go to winners in each category. Interested youth are encouraged to participate. Tickets to the event are $5 (adults) and $3 (children 12 and under). Proceeds from the talent show will benefit the Forest Heights Unit of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast iin Gulfport.

EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS • EVENTS

Magical Knights Mardi Gras Ball has been scheduled for Saturday, January 25, 1997. The event will be held in the Casino Magic Dome in Bay St. Louis. The event is sponsored by the Knights of Peter Claver Pere Blanc Council #6 and the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #6. Tickets are $15 (single) and $25 (couple). For more information, contact Rhonda Labat at 467-3732 or Paula Fairconnetue at 467-1651.

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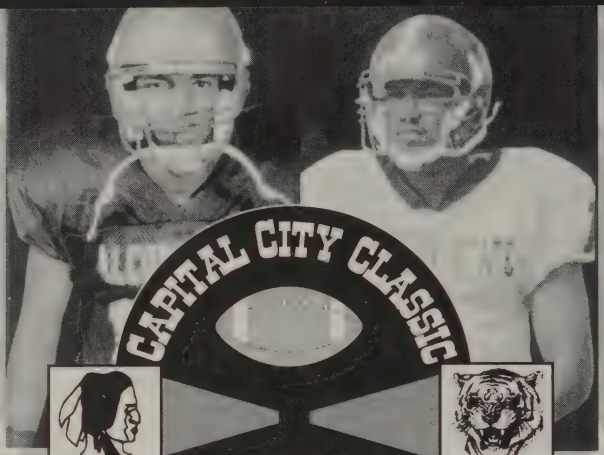

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Friday - November 22
Presidents; Scholarship Banquet - 7:00 p.m.
Ramada Inn Coliseum
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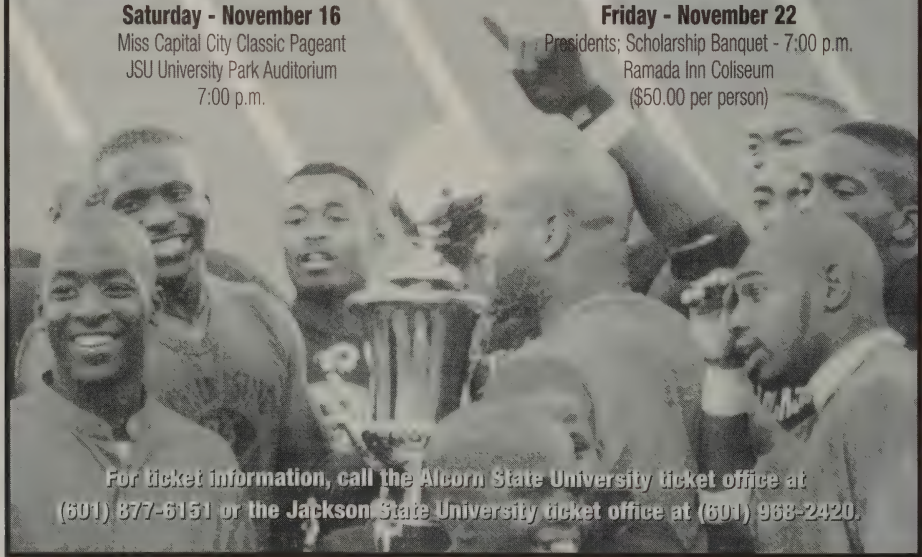

For ticket information, call the Alcorn State University ticket office at (601) 877-6151 or the Jackson State University ticket office at (601) 968-2420.

Student Leaders

On College Campuses

Jacqueline Ann Faulkner is president of the Student Government Association at Jackson State University. A native of Senatobia, Mississippi, Jacqueline is a senior English Education major in the W.E.B. DuBois Honors College. She is a Dean's List Scholar and a member of the JSU Pride Connection, a student recruitment organization. Upon graduation, she plans to return to JSU to pursue a master's degree in educational administration. Jacqueline is the daughter of Ms. Jane L. Todd of Senatobia.

Noymi Ramey is Executive President of the Student Council at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston Campus. Previously, she held the position of vice president. Noymi is involved in the Honors Program and is a member of the Black History Committee. A graduate of Stone High School in Wiggins, Noymi was recipient of the Frank and Charles Peacock Scholarship and the Foundation for Better Education Scholarship. She plans to continue her studies at the University of South Alabama in Mobile.

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Angela Givens is a Presidential Scholar and a Columbia Broadcasting System Scholar at Tougaloo College. She has held the position of Student Government Association president. A senior with a double major in mathematics and political science/pre-law, Angela holds a 3.99 grade point average. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Reuben V. Anderson Pre-Law Society. Angela plans to pursue a law degree.

Greg K.Threatt is president of the Mississippi State University Student Association for the 1996-97 school year. A junior banking and finance major, Greg previously held the position of SA attorney general. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Threatt of Nesbit.

Mississippi State University Student Association Officers: Jennifer L. Sherman of Starkville, treasurer; Greg Threatt; Justin M. Cobb of Meridian, vice president; Jennifer D. Steckler of Natchez, secretary; and Evelyn L. Palmer of Sardis, attorney general.

Lorrie Hayes is president of Inter-Residence Hall Council at Alcorn State University in Lorman. The community-minded senior is active in various campus organizations, including the Student Government Association, the Social Science Society and the NAACP. After graduation, she plans to continue her studies on the graduate level in public policy or in urban affairs. Lorrie aspires to create and develop new and innovative ways to enhance the livelihood of persons of all walks of life. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Lee Hayes of Magee.

continued on page 28

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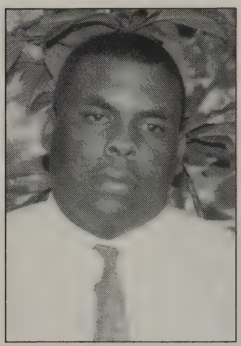
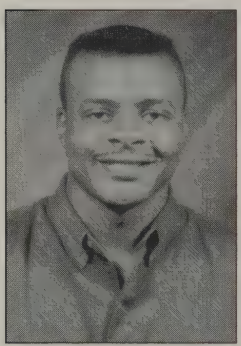
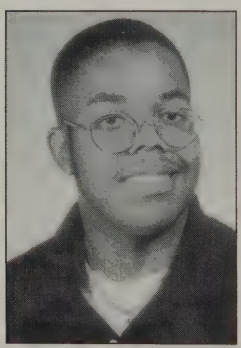
Le Crisha Monique Peyton is Student Government Association president at Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena. The junior from Monticello is an elementary education major. She is active in the MVSU Honors College, Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society, Student Mentors, Mississippi Association of Educators and the National Educators Association. After graduation, Le Crisha plans to teach students with extreme disciplinary problems and children who are slow learners. Le Crisha's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peyton, Jr. of Monticello.



Antoine Kelly is president of the African American Student Organization at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. A native of Byhalia, the senior pre-law major is active in various campus organizations, including the University Activities Council, the Student Alumni Association, the Union Advisory Board, and V.I.S.I.O.N. (Volunteers Impacting Society through Individual Outreach). He is vice president of Men of Excellence, a group which inspires leadership among African American men.



Lorenzo Lamar Esters is vice president of the Student Government Association at Rust College in Holly Springs Mississippi. The junior English major from Greenwood is president of the Pre-Alumni Council and vice president of Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Fraternity. He is also active in his community where he is a member of the National Marrow Donor Program and the director of his church choir. The graduate of Amanda Elzy High School in Greenwood aspires to become a professor of English. He is the son of Mrs. Clara M. Esters and the late R. B. Esters.



William Gully, III, is vice president of the Student Government Association at Jones Junior College in Ellisville. He serves on five SGA committees and is active in Phi Beta Lambda (business fraternity), Council on Drug and Alcohol Awareness, and Recreation Club. Upon graduation from Jones next spring, William plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi to work toward a degree in Business Administration.

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Diversity: A Matter of Color, *Shape,* and Size

by Eddie A. Holloway

Much has been said about the concept of diversity. Many people claim themselves as diversity experts and market themselves in the same fashion. Diversity has to be a difficult subject because it has served as a source of controversy for generations. The failure to understand diversity las led people to depart and go their separate ways. Even strong, close families are divided on this issue. There have been growing intolerances that have developed because of the ever present notion of diversity.

Eddie Holloway

Diversity is simply the differences that exists between people. Each time I visit malls, ball games, graduation ceremonies, casinos, churches and other public places, I recognize the visual and behavioral differences that people exhibit. The same is evident when browsing through bookstores, libraries and automobile dealerships. The same thoughts come to mind when selecting clothes from my closet, which consists of pants, shirts, suits, and certainly neckties of every possible pattern imaginable. Can you imagine me wearing a necktie with a duck on it? As I explore this thought of diversity, I think of an old "quilt" my mother made from various pieces of cloth that she saved from years as a seamstress - almost unlimited as to the colors,

continued on page 32

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shapes, textures and sizes of the cloth remnants. This quilt has been my favorite winter bed cover for years.

Obviously, we expect differences when it comes to places and things. However, it appears that we are less tolerant and accepting of other people with different origins and orientations. Stated another way, perhaps our society has more of an inbred belief and support for heterogeneity in inanimate or non-life objects as opposed to people with racial and ethnic differences. Our quest and desire for the "sameness" in people stands the likelihood of disallowing different individuals and our nation from reaching greater heights. Think about it; America is the leading nation in the industrialized world. This thought leads me to wonder how far advanced might we have been if America would have had a greater appreciation for diversity in her people.

The intolerance that was aforementioned leads some people to develop attitudinal and behavioral ways of resolving their intolerances of diversity. Several of the predominate ways are: discriminatory acts that are unfair to others; scapegoating which places blame on people when the fault lies elsewhere; racism that often results in the belief that one race is superior to another; and ethnocentric views of "my" way being the only way.

The Indians patiently, and in many cases painfully, watched the English, Dutch, Swedes, Germans, Scotch-Irish, French-Huguenots, Jews, and Africans come and settle in America. These immigrants could not simply shed their habits and beliefs and customs of their origin. Instead of America being a "melting pot", we really represent a "salad bowl" of various distinction.

The complexion of America's population has changed and will continue to do so. Our population is becoming more diverse and our challenges will be more complex yet accomplishable. Females and Persons of Color currently comprise some seventy-five percent of the entering work force. Just think of the implications of this statistic. Bias, discrimination, and prejudice endanger our society from reaching the highest level of potential.

Obviously, it is not an easy task to achieve harmony among so many diverse groups. However, we must avoid bitter rivalries that hinder and produce sources of harmful conflict.

We must always remember that a community which is composed of different groups will prosper only if it operates when the members of all segments are treated equally. More importantly, we should defend the basic beliefs and tenets of our democracy and welcome diversity as a strength to be appreciated and cherished. MS

Eddie Holloway is the Assistant Dean of Students at USM in Hattiesburg

News Briefs

COAST A joint effort of various law enforment agencies resulted in the arrests of more than two hundred alleged street-level drug dealers on October 4. "Operation Cooperation" involved law enforment agencies from Hancock, Harrison and Jackson counties. More than $60,000 was seized along with guns, cocaine, marijuana and other illicit drugs.

JACKSON Mississippi will receive more than $40 million more that it received last year to help the State implement the new federal welfare reform law. Approximately $13 million dollars has been allocated for child-care programs so parents in the program can work or go to school.

BILOXI Local police believe they have solved a murder which occurred in October of 1993. Capital murder charges were brought against four Biloxi men in the death of Eugene Daniels, Jr. All four suspects were already jailed in Harrison and Rankin counties, where each was being held on charges unrelated to the murder.

PINEY WOODS Oprah Winfrey donated $43,000 to Piney Woods Country Life School so that the boarding school near Jackson may hire a social worker.

GULFPORT Dallas-based Hunt Properties plans to open Crossroads Mall in 1998. The 800,000 square-foot fashion mall will be located northeast of the Highway 49 and the I-10 Interchange. Mall tenants have yet to be named.

MOSS POINT Local police reported that a riot followed the conclusion of an October 12 performance by the rap group 2 Live Crew. Police estimated that a crowd of approximately 1000 people were involved.

Coming in the December Issue

- Ethnic & Cultural Christmas Gift Ideas
- The Year in Review
  Send us event photographs involving your organization which took place during 1996.
- Mississippi players in the NBA

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CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2
Christians Night Out
Mt. Olive Baptist Church
Jackie Sherrill Community Center
Hattiesburg 7:00 p.m.
Contact: 582-3475

NOVEMBER 2
USM Homecoming Game Opponent:
Univ. of Cincinnati M.M. Roberts
Stadium Hattiesburg 2:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 7 -10
NAACP State Convention
Isle of Capri Casino
Crowne Plaza Resort Hotel Biloxi

NOVEMBER 9
Debutante Cotillion Banquet and
Grand Ball Ramada Inn Convention
Center Tupelo 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 15
St. Mark United Methodist Church
104th Anniversary Banquet Speaker:
Tony Brown (Tony Brown's Journal
TV Show) Broadwater Beach Resort
Hotel Biloxi 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 16
Mayor's Youth Conference
Payne Center University of Southern
Mississippi - Hattiesburg
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 17 - 24
Rust College Founders Week
Celebration Holly Springs
Contact: 601/252-8000, ext. 4911

NOVEMBER 23
Capital City Classic Alcorn State vs.
Jackson State Memorial Stadium
Jackson 1:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 23
Star Nite '96 Forest Heights Club Unit
Talent Show - Saenger Theatre Biloxi
6:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 30
Bayou Classic Football Game
Southern University/Grambling State
New Orleans Superdome

Letters to the Publisher should be 100 words or less. **Star Calendar:** Events of interest to South Mississippians should be submitted on your organization's letterhead, specifying the date, time, place of event and a number of contact.

Submissions should be received by the twentieth day of the preceding month. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number. Mail submissions to Mississippi Star, P.O. Box 2651, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.

Mississippi Star reserves the right to refuse or decline to publish any submission.

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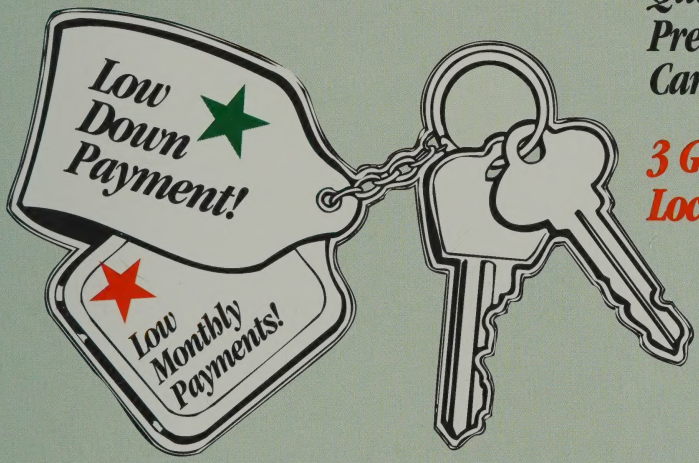

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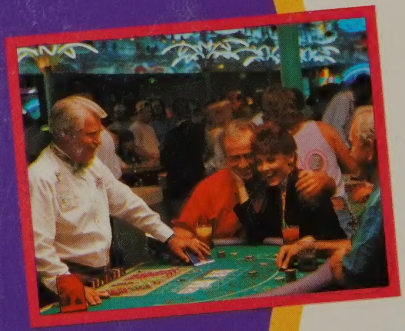

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